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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except AT, US): NOVARTIS AG [CH/CH]; Lichtstrasse 35, CH-4056 Basel (CH).
- (71) Applicant (for AT only): NOVARTIS PHARMA GMBH [AT/AT]; Brunner Strasse 59, A-1230 Vienna (AT).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): DAOUTI, Sherif [US/US]; 137 Berkshire Road, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604 (US). KUMAR, Chandrika Saidapet [US/US]; 31 Wilson Way North, West Windsor, NJ 08550 (US). LATARIO, Brian, Jude [US/US]; 495 Martins Pond Road, Groton, MA 01450 (US).
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(54) Title: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS TARGETING TYROSINE KINASES FOR THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF OSTEOARTHRITIS

(57) Abstract: The invention discloses that members of a subfamily of receptor tyrosine kinases comprising TYRO3, Axl, cMer and ligands thereof, such as GAS6 are suitable targets for the development of new therapeutics to treat, prevent or ameliorate OA. The invention also relates to methods to treat and/or ameliorate OA and pharmaceutical compositions therefor comprising modulators with inhibitory effect on the expression or activity of members of this subfamily of receptor tyrosine and related ligands. The invention also relates to a method to identify compounds with therapeutic usefulness to treat OA, comprising identifying compounds that can, e.g., inhibit activity and/or expression of these polypeptides.